Bloomington, Indiana University, Bloomington, Lilly Library at Indiana University, Ricketts 198

Description: ff. 1-244 - Contemporary binding of bevelled wooden boards sewn on 4 double thongs, covered with parchment, each cover double ruled in blind into 4 compartments enclosing saltires, blind-stamped with small lozenges with gothic letters resembling 'e' and 'b' (perhaps actually 's' and 'k' for 'sankt katherina', although it is not certain that the nuns had a bindery, (cf. Kyriss 1940, pp. 35-36), metal clasps and catches on leather thongs attached from the lower cover, contemporary parchment flyleaves and nineteenth-century paper flyleaves, upper joints broken; in a brown cloth case. - The Dominican convent of Sankt Katharina in Nuremberg (founded 1296, suppressed 1803), with their contemporary inscription inside the upper cover, "das puch gehort in das Closter zu Sant kath[ar]ein prediger orden in Nure[n]berg" (see below); Alexander Augustus Smets (1795-1862), of Savannah, GA, bought in February 1839 (signature on fol. 1r); his sale, Leavitt, New York, 25 May 1868, lot 1461; Catalogue of a Private Library, Containing an Exceedingly Valuable Collection of Fine-Art and Illustrated Books, Illuminated Manuscripts, Original Drawings, &c, &c [identified in the Grolier Club copy as being the library of E. Tasker], Leavitt, New York, 3 March 1880, lot 620; C. L. Ricketts; acquired by the Lilly Library with the Ricketts Collection in 1961. - Ruf 1933, p. 574; De Ricci 1935, p. 648; Krochalis 1986, p. 34 and n. 23; H. B. Felleisen in 'Catalogue' 1988, pp. 68-75, no. 13; Krämer 1989, p. 615; Hamburger 1998, pp. 19, 21-22 and 44, figs. 1.2 and 1.3 and col. pl. 1; Green 2000, pp. 347-48; Green 2008, pp. 121-23 and fig. 3.1; Holcomb, Dale and Janis 2008, p. 180.

Notes:-Some staining, parchment borders cut away, patches, some early patches over text.

Number of Parts: 1 - *Number of Images Available:* 2

Direct Link: http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/Ricketts198_40

Language: German *Country:* Germany *Century:* 15th

Part 1: ff. 1r-244v

Description: - Paper and Parchment - 291 x 200 mm - Collation: i–ix^{12}, x^{11} [of 12, lacking xii, after fol. 119], xi^{12}, xii^{12+1} [fol. 134 added, with full-page colored drawing], xiii–xv^{12}, xvi^{11} [of 12, lacking viii, after 187], xvii^{12}, xviii^{11} [of 12, lacking xii, after fol. 214, doubtless blank], xix–xx^{12}, xxi^{6} [perhaps of 12, perhaps lacking vii–xii at end], with horizontal catchwords; 2 columns, ruled with bounding lines only 26–40 lines (mostly 33–34 lines), each column 187 mm. by 57 mm. with 14 mm. between columns

Country: Germany

Cardinal point: southern

Region:

City: Nuremberg

Assigned Date: s. XV^{med}

Searchable Date Range: 1440 - 1460

Dated by scribe: Yes

Inscribed Date: 1458

Document: No

Number of Scribes:

Scribe(s): Katharienconvent; the convent catalogue entry describes the volume as having been made by the sisters.

Script: Cursive Book Hand

Artist(s): Barbara Gwichtmacherin?

Figurative Decoration: 25 large historiated initials, showing a pelican in her piety (fol. 5r), a phoenix on a pyre (fol. 11v), "cirkarin", the guardian, standing with her hand raised to her lips (fol. 14v), "schaffnerin", the procurator, seated on a bench, windows behind (fol. 18r), "kellerin", the cellarer, with jug and decanter, doors behind (fol. 20v), "küsterin", the sacristan, pulling a bell rope (fol. 23r), "sengerin", the cantor, pointing to a book on a lectern (fol. 29r), two nuns and a laywoman, listening to a bell over a window (fol. 34r), "siechenmeisterin", the infirmarer, at the bedside of an ill nun (fol. 50r), "novitzenmeistrin", the novice mistress and novice master, instructing a new nun (fol. 59v), "ratswestern", the prioress and her council of four advisors (fol. 87r), "baummeistrin", the building mistress instructing a labourer on a construction site (fol. 88r), "gewandmaistrin", the wardrobe mistress dying or washing garments (fol. 93r), "küchinmeistrin", the cook with a pot over the fire (fol. 96v), "tischdienerin", a serving nun bringing a tray of food to two nuns at table (fol. 102v), "correctrix" and "leserin", the director of reading and the lector, seated in chairs before a book on a lectern (fol. 105r), the lector reading during a meal in the nuns' refectory (fol. 106v), "briefmeistrin", the archivist, two nuns with scrolls in a wall cupboard (fol.108r), "dormiterin", the dormitory mistress standing at the foot of the night stairs with a key (fol. 110r), "gartnerin", the garden mistress sowing beds of flowers and herbs (fol. 112r), Friar Johann Meyer kneeling before the Christ Child (fol. 116r), a laybrother with a rosary (fol. 116v), a nun and a laywoman being commended to the throne of God (fol. 136v), Saint Dominic holding a convent and accompanied by eleven Masters General of the Order (fol. 172r), and a friar (perhaps Johann Meyer) seated at a lectern (fol. 215r); full-page coloured drawing on fol. 134v, 190 mm. by 138 mm., showing a friar in a pulpit preaching to a congregation of nuns, holding a scroll "Audi filia & vide & inclina aurem tuam quia [concupavit rex speciem tuam", psalm 44: 11–12]

Other Decoration: Headings and rubrication in red, large and small initials throughout in red; a few initials in red and blue with penwork in both colors.

Notes: The Katharinenconvent was notable for its number of active scribes who were members of the community itself. Upwards of two dozen manuscripts survive signed by the nuns, significant in the history of female literacy. The best documented artist at the Katharinenconvent was Barbara Gwichtmacherin, fl. c. 1450-70, and the splendid and spirited coloured drawings here of female conventual life may well be by her. Latin

Number of Texts: 7

Text 1: f. 1

Author: Humbert of Romans

Title: Das Amtbuch

Language(s): German

Notes: Preface on fol. 1r, In dem namen unsers lieben herren explaining that this is a German translation made for the nuns by a Dominican brother of Basel [the reformer Johann Meyer, d. 1485] of the Latin book of monastic offices by Humbert of Romans (d. 1277, fifth Master General of the Order).

Text 2: f. 3v-4v

Author: Humbert of Romans
Title: Das Amtbuch
Language(s): German
Notes: Second prologue and a table of chapters

Text 3: f. 116r
Title: Das Amtbuch
Language(s): German
Notes: Colophon dates the completion of the manuscript to the Friday within the octave of the Visitation in 1458 [i.e. 7 July], repeating again that the translation was done from a copy in Basel in 1454.
Acknowledgments: Sarah Glenn DeMaris has edited the text in the series Monumenta ordinis fratrum praedicatorum historica, in which this will be volume 31.

Text 4: f. 5v-115v
Title: Das Amtbuch
Language(s): German
Incipit: Einer priorin
Explicit: explicit oder ende dis buchs
Notes: Text itself opening with the duties of the prioress with practical advice on the duties of newly-elected office-holders in a Dominican convent, from prioress to gardener.

f. 112r "Gartnerin", the garden mistress sowing beds of flowers and herbs.

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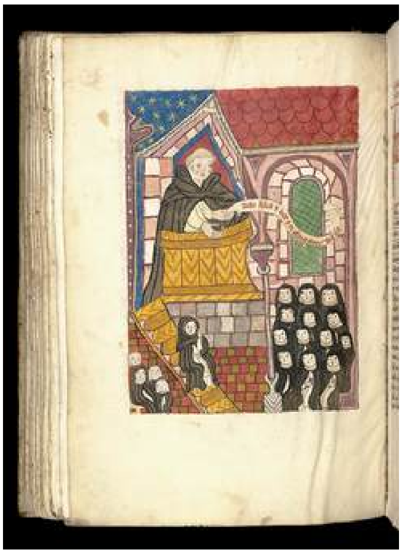
Text 5: f. 118r-125r
Title: Constitution and rules
Language(s): German
Notes: For laybrothers and laysisters of Katharinenconvent in Nuremberg.

Text 6: f. 126r
Author: Innocent VIII
Title: Bull of Innocent VIII, 1405
Language(s): German

Text 7: ff. 135r-244v.
Author: Johann Meyer
Title: Chronicle, Dominican
Language(s): German
Incipit: Hie facht an die vorred in das buch der ersetzung, Audi filia . . .
Notes: contains ten chapters to 1453, all ending on fol. 244v, where the text is dated on the eve of Saint Thomas Aquinas 1455 [i.e. 6 March]. Additions in the lower margins include notes on the re-opening of the cloister in Engelport in 1466 (fol. 163r) and the death of the prioress Gertrud Gwichtmacherin in 1469 (fol. 212v).



f. 134v Friar lecturing nuns with Psalm 44:11-12.

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